Amount payable to RBI by Government of India

7538. SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the total amount payable by the Government of India to RBI under the "Treasury Bill" arrangement as on the 31st March, 1994?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): The total face value of outstanding 91 day Treasury Bills payable by the Government of India to Reserve Bank of India as on 31st March, 1994 was Rs. 24,443.06 crores.

IMF concern over Fiscal Policy of India

7539. SHRI S. AUSTIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the International Monetary Fund has shown its concern over weakening of the fiscal policy of the country; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) Correction of slippage in the fiscal deficit that has occurred in 1993-94 was stated by the FM to be one of the major tasks which has been addressed by the budget proposals of 1994-95. The IMF in its Article IV Report on India finaliged in March 1994, has also observed that strengthening of fiscal policy is necessary.

(b) The budget proposals for 1994-95 primarily aim at providing a growth impetus to the economy and steering it towards a turn around in industrial production. The efforts at fiscal correction would derive support from the economic recovery and will also be addressed through the package of tax reform measures announced in the Budget.

Decline in GDP

7540. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per the Reserve Bank of India's estimates the real GDP growth is expected to decline to 3.8 per cent in 1993-94;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore, indicating the real GDP growth in 1992-93 as compared to 1993-94;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the National Income (NNP at factor cost) at 1980-81 prices also slated to decrease by 0.6 per centage points to 3.6 per cent during 1993-94;

(d) if so, what remedial measures Government propose to take or have taken so far to increase GDP as well as NNP during 1994-95 as compared to 1993-94; if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) to (d) As per the figures available with the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) (and reproduced in RBI Bulletin) the advance estimate for real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is placed at 3.8 per cent in 1993-94 as against a quick estimate of 4 per cent for 1992-93. The net national product (NNP) at factor cost at 1980-81 prices is expected to show a growth rate of 3.7 per cent in 1993-94 as against 4.2 per cent in 1992-93. The marginal decline in the GDP growth rate during 1993-94, as compared to 1992-93 is mainly due to the decline in the value of output of agriculture, arising out of the decline in the production of foodgrains. The various ecoonmic reforms undertaken since 1991-92 are aimed at improving the efficiency of the economy with a view to putting economy on a higher growth path.